The Corporation of The City of London
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City and Library Recognize "Adopt-a-Doc" Program

The City of London is paying lasting tribute to the London Business Laureates for their successful "Adopt-a-Doc" Program, which is helping to recruit new family doctors to our community. Today, Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco-Best presented the Laureates and other community supporters of the pivotal Program with a plaque of recognition for display at the London Public Library's Central Branch.

In their efforts to address London's shortage of family physicians, the Business Laureates launched the "Adopt-a-Doc" Program in March 2005, as a means of supporting the Mayor's Health Care London Task Force to recruit new doctors. Through this Program, physicians moving to London to establish a family practice could receive financial incentives. Since London is not eligible for any financial incentives provided through the Province, "Adopt-a-Doc" is a creative way to generate local funds to help attract family doctors.

After generating almost $120,000 and assisting in the recruitment of six new London doctors, the Laureates are now wrapping up their role in "Adopt-a-Doc", and hope another community group will continue the Program in the future.

"Thanks to the generosity of these community-minded Londoners, we will continue to succeed in our quest for more family doctors," says Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco-Best. "And, what better place to honour the "Adopt-a-Doc" Program than as part of the Business Hall of Fame display at our Central Library."

Following the plaque dedication, the Library further announced that London's best in teaching, business and community service will have a permanent and highly-visible home in the new Library's Hudson's Bay Passageway, which sees thousands of Londoners each week.

The Central Library has been home to Junior Achievement's Business Hall of Fame since 2002 and to the London Teachers Hall of Fame since 2004. Each year, new honourees from both distinguished categories will join the "Adopt-a-Doc" plaque, while past honourees will continue to be featured in the Hall of Fame display on the Library's 2nd floor.

"The Library is proud to create a permanent tribute to London's leadership greats and to add the "Adopt-a-Doc" plaque of recognition to this place of honour," says London Public Library CEO Anne Becker. "As a community hub, it is the Library's role to provide greater visibility and profile for these individuals and to support a sense of pride in their tremendous accomplishments and contributions to London."